

[18th December 1922]

A.—The Government have already issued orders on the points referred to by the hon. Member. Copies of these orders will be furnished to him.

*Publication of the Village Courts Act, 1920, in the vernaculars.*

567 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state when copies of the Village Panchayat Courts Act of 1920 and the rules framed thereunder will be available in the chief vernaculars of the province for the benefit of courts and the public?

A.—They are already available at the Government Press.

*Amount of loans advanced in famine-affected areas.*

568 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) the amount of loans advanced in the famine-affected areas during the official years 1920–21 and 1921–22 respectively and the amount of loan outstanding out of the total advances made; and

(2) the amounts which have so far been found after inquiry to be irrecoverable and recommended to be written off?

A.—The report due from the Board on the subject has not yet been received.

*Diversion of the river Tungabhadra.*

569 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) whether the suggestions of the Collectors of Bellary and Anantapur, that the Tungabhadra river may be diverted into a perennially running channel starting from the north-east corner of the district and that an existing channel leading from the Hagari river may be widened so as to provide irrigation facilities for an additional extent of 500 or 600 acres, have been referred to the Chief Engineer for Government for consideration; and

(2) if so, the conclusions which the Chief Engineer has arrived at as a result of his examination of the schemes?

A.—The proposal of excavating a channel from the Tungabhadra river has for the present been given up as there may be some difficulty in obtaining adequate river supplies during the low season for the lands in the Bellary district. As regards the other scheme—widening an existing channel leading from the Hagari river—investigation is being made regarding the discharge in the river and the scheme will be considered after completion of this investigation.

*Foresters in the Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur districts.*

570 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) the scale of pay of the foresters in the Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur districts;

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(2) the number of foresters in each of the above districts who know only to sign their names; and

(3) whether ability to read and write is not among the qualifications required for appointment of persons as foresters?

A.—(1) The scale of pay sanctioned to foresters in *all* districts is as follows:—

Rs. 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50.

(2) The Government have no information.

(3) The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“With reference to paragraph 3, the answer is not quite clear, Sir. I want to know whether literacy is or is not a qualification for the appointment of officers as foresters?”

The hon. Mr. A. R. KNAPP:—“The qualification is, Sir, that the foresters should be able to read and write in vernacular.”

*Communal representation in Government service.*

571 Q.—Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD SADULLA BADSHA SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state, with reference to the last sentence of paragraph 277 of the Madras Presidency Administration Report, 1920–21, the percentage of posts in the superior service held by communities other than Muhammadans on the 1st April 1921 out of the six main subdivisions referred to in G.O. No. 658, Public, dated 15th August 1922?

A.—The hon. Member will be able to obtain the information he wants from the return which will be published in accordance with G.O. No. 658, dated the 15th August 1922.

*Reference to Muhammadan representation in service in the Administration Report.*

572 Q.—Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD SADULLA BADSHA SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the circumstances under which a special paragraph in regard to Muhammadans in the service of Government is being inserted annually in the Madras Presidency Administration Report and when this practice was commenced?

A.—The practice of inserting a special paragraph in the annual Presidency Administration Report in regard to Muhammadans in the service of Government was introduced under instructions from the Government of India in 1885.

*Knowledge of Urdu on the part of Inspectresses of Muhammadan girls' schools.*

573 Q.—Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD SADULLA BADSHA SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Inspectresses of girls' schools who have to inspect Muhammadan girls' schools possess a knowledge of the Urdu language; if not, which of the Inspectresses do not possess a knowledge of Urdu and whether the Government or the Director of Public Instruction have taken any steps to see that the Inspectresses of Muhammadan girls' schools possess a knowledge of Urdu for the purpose of efficient inspection?

A.—Two out of the five Inspectresses of girls' schools have some knowledge of Urdu.

The answer to the latter part of the question is in the negative.